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Bangalore Mirror

TEMP Max 33 | Min 21 | Humidity 51% Partly cloudy Sensex 58,683 | Nifty 17,498 | Gold 50,965 | Silver 67,589 | Dollar 75.78 | Euro 84.59 | GBP 99.70

Karnataka Power Corporation building 'saves energy cost by 47.1%' over conventional structures setting an example for future work spaces in Bengaluru

THE SHAPE OF FUTURE

12.3% of required energy drawn from solar panels

Garima Prasher
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TWEETS @BangaloreMIRROR

For the Karnataka Power Corporation Limited (KPCL) building in Bengaluru, sky-high electricity bills are a thing of the past. The six-storey office space recently earned a platinum rating certification from the Indian Green Building Council (IGBC) for its sustainable design.

Rainwater harvesting, stormwater management, solar energy, landscaping using native plants, use of sustainable and renewable building materials and low content of the volatile organic compounds include some of the green building concepts incorporated in the design.

"Since we moved into this building, we have not had the need to turn on the air conditioning. The building design was helpful during covid-19 times too. The natural ventilators avoided the spread of infection that happens typically in closed environments. Being the energy

CONTINUED ON PAGE 6 »

"From wall material to natural daylight... occupancy sensors to roof insulation... we have used a combination of design aspects..." — Meghana Dutta, principal architect, Studio Decode

Water for wildlife

Volunteers are now sending in water tankers to Turahalli forest to refill a waterhole

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Summer has set in. The jungles are parched. Scarcity of water in the forests adjoining the city limits are driving wildlife out in search of water.

For instance, volunteers are now sending in water tankers to the Turahalli forest to refill a pond — the usual waterhole in the area — for the benefit of wildlife.

As waterholes dry up, wildlife struggle to survive in the harsh weather with no access to a drink of water. Cases of deer venturing out from the forest onto the roads adjoining the forests during summer are on the rise.

In turn, the deer are often attacked by stray dogs, which has led to the creatures getting injured. Some even die due to the sheer trauma.

=In order to assist wildlife, and help resolve the issue during scorching summers that have become the new normal, a volunteer organisation is now providing water for wildlife at the Turahalli forest.

Share Habitat started the initiative in the beginning of March this year and have so far sent five water tankers to the pond area in a patch of forest which wildlife are known to frequent. Each tank will provide over 20,000 litres of water, which will be sufficient for the wildlife in the area for some time.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 6 »

3 THINGS TO DO

01 It's drama time

Catch Antaranga's new play Project Nagna. This play is being performed as a part of the Nataka Bengaluru Theatre festival. The play is a translation of a famous English play, PROJECT S.T.R.I.P. written by well-known playwright Ram Ganesh Kamatam. Kamatam's play is an absorbing attempt to portray the dilemma between development and the plight of the people affected by it.
Where: Ranga Shankara
When: March 31, 7:30pm
Tickets: Rs 150, bookmyshow.com

02 Summer camp

Empowered Minds Edu Solutions is organising a live virtual summer camp programme. The camp will include cooking without fire, theatre and drama, science and experiments, yoga and exercise, art and craft, dance & creative writing.
Where: Online
When: till April 6,10:30am to 12:00 pm
Register: empoweredminds.co.in/ 8431711722

03 Cocooning

Artist and designer Heena Pari is showcasing her latest exhibition of paintings and installations called 'Cocooning'. 'Cocooning' marks the second anniversary of the day India went into lockdown, and life as we knew changed, propelling us towards an uncertain path. With seven select bodies of work on display: installations, a series of drawings, projections, collages and quilt inspired work, the sole focus of the exhibit is to invite people into her world, her home.
Where: 1Shanthi Road Studio, Shanthinagar
When: Till April 3, 11am – 7pm
Call: 9880528159

Summer hols may foil kids' jab plans

Vaccination for 12–14 age group may be slowed as students are away from campuses

Garima Prasher
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A health worker inoculates a student in the age group of 12 – 14 with Corbevax

While the Karnataka Health Department has given the much-awaited green signal to conduct Covid-19 vaccination drives for 12-to 14-year-olds on school campuses, the summer vacation is expected to mar the pace of the drive.

"While we will extend our full support to the government in conducting the drive on campus, this decision has been delayed. The on-campus drive should have begun at least a month back. The summer vacations have started, and many students will not be available in the city to get vaccinated," said a management staffer of a popular chain of schools.

Schools say that they have yet not received a confirmation from Primary Healthcare Centres (PHCs) or district health officers.

Shashi Kumar, General Secretary, Association of Management of Primary and Secondary Schools of Karnataka (KAMS), said that they have not received any official statement from the government nor have they heard from the BBMP's Health Department about the commencement of the vaccination drive on campuses. "During the last drive, for the 15 - 17 age group, the Primary Healthcare Centres had reached out to us with an official letter. Nothing of this sort has precipitated this time."

The association said that schools were apprehensive about conducting a successful drive with no students on campuses.

"We are not sure how much can be done during the summer vacation. Many students would have gone to their hometowns. They have come to us late this time. Now, the schools will reopen only on May 16. We will help the Health Department by providing our campuses and sending out the announcements to the parents. However, we cannot force them to be on campus during the summer vacation," added Kumar.

> **"We are not sure how much can be done during the summer vacation. Many students would have gone to their hometowns**
> –Shashi Kumar, General Secretary, Association of Management of Primary and Secondary Schools of Karnataka

According to many school authorities, this drive may have to be carried out for an extended time period.

"If required, we can create the set-up for the vaccination drive on our campus. However, BBMP will have to fix a date and inform us much in advance," said MN Natesh Kumar, principal of Gurukul International School, adding that they could only send announcements to the parents to get their kids for vaccination. This will have to be a prolonged drive, he said.

A welcome move

"Although the decision has come in late, it is a welcome step. This will give the parents some confidence that the vaccine is available. We will provide free transport wherever possible to get parents and children on the campus and will drop them back too," said Mansoor Ali Khan, board member, Delhi Public School.

Hijab issue: 7 teachers in trouble

Bangalore Mirror Bureau
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TWEETS @BangaloreMirror

In Bengaluru, SSLC students enter exam halls

The Education Department has suspended seven teachers including two superintendents for allowing hijab-clad students to sit for the SSLC exams in the district of Gadag. The department has also ordered an inquiry into the suspended invigilators.

The incident happened at the CS Patil Examination Centre in Gadag. Following the Karnataka High Court Special Bench's dismissal of the petitions filed by students seeking permission to allow them to wear hijab and attend classes, the government had prohibited students from wearing a hijab while writing exams in the state. A room has been prepared for such students to take off their hijab before appearing for the exam. While a majority of students belonging to the minority community are attending exams in uniforms while removing a hijab, there have been a few incidents of students trying to flout the rule.

Earlier, on Monday, in Rajajinagar, a female invigilator who was monitoring the examinations while wearing a hijab was suspended after she refused to take it off. Many students have remained absent and gone back from the examination centres after being asked to remove it.

Around 40 Muslim students from Udupi abstained from appearing for the first pre-university examination on Tuesday as they were hurt by the recent High Court verdict against wearing of hijab inside classrooms. The students decided to not appear for the examination without wearing the headscarf as they were hurt by the March 15 order, sources said.

Those who shunned the examinations on Tuesday include 24 female students from Kundapur, 14 from Byndoor and two from Udupi Government Girls PU college, who were involved in the legal fight over wearing of hijab in classrooms. The girls had earlier boycotted the practical examinations too.

At the RN Shetty PU College, 13 out of 28 Muslim girl students appeared for the examination. Though some students reached the examination centre wearing hijabs, they were denied permission.

Day 2: 97% attendance

The second day of the SSLC exams (second language paper) saw 97.46 per cent of 8,68,206 students writing the exam. Around 22,063 students (including 1,976 in Bengaluru) didn't sit for the paper in the state. In Bengaluru, north zone had an attendance of 98.29 per cent while south zone had an attendance of 97.92 per cent.

(with inputs from agencies)

It's a no to iftar stalls on Fraser Town footpaths

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PIC FOR ILLUSTRATIVE PURPOSES ONLY

The ubiquitous iftar stalls that occupy Fraser Town's footpaths every Ramadaan will not be allowed to come up this year. BBMP authorities and law enforcement agencies have been directed not to give permission for temporary stalls that come up on the footpaths especially Mosque Road and MM Road.

Pulakeshi Nagar's MLA Akhanda Srinivasa Murthy, the mosque committee members and AR Zakir, the ex-corporator of the area have taken a decision that no stalls would be allowed to be put up. If anyone violates the decision, action would be taken against them, the representatives decided.

However, rumours floating in and around Mosque Road and MM Road do not endorse what the MLA and the ex-corporator decided. A houseowner who lives on MM Road told this newspaper that a hotelier in the area had approached him requesting him to rent out the footpath space in front of his house for him to put up a stall and he was ready to pay Rs 1.5 lakh.

Reports of agents illegally subletting spaces on pavements are doing the rounds, according to residents

There are also agents 'unofficially subletting' footpath spaces to hoteliers in front of the mosque, public buildings, and in front of other commercial establishments for iftar stalls. Each stall space on the footpath is being booked for amounts between Rs 1 and 1.5 lakh, said Rizwan, a resident of MM Road.

According to sources, there are over 120 hotels situated in Fraser Town and among them, around 25 are on Mosque Road and MM Road.

"All these 120 hotels in Fraser Town would compete for getting a stall space on either Mosque Road or the MM Road every year during Ramadaan. In 2020, there was the lockdown, and in 2021, Ramadaan festivities happened with restrictions, but this year, everyone wants to have a blast," said Shabbir, another resident of Fraser Town.

Rubbishing such rumours, ex-corporator AR Zakir told Bangalore Mirror that no stalls would be allowed as there would be chaotic traffic and it is a disturbance for worshippers who are fasting and going for Roza to the mosque.

However, the hotels that are already on Mosque Road and MM Road would be allowed to open an extra counter for selling iftar delicacies within their premises, Zakir said.

"We have also directed BBMP officials and the police to keep a check on encroachment of footpaths, that causes inconvenience to pedestrians," said MLA Akhanda Srinivas Murthy, adding that smooth movement of traffic in the area would be ensured without too many vehicles being parked on the roads.

A quick self-check made me aware of my Vitamin-D deficiency.
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Smart card transactions, made easier

The BMRCL is now introducing a one-day and three-day pass. In addition, BMRCL will also be refunding unclaimed online smart card recharges and online smart card top-ups from April 2. The one-day pass costs Rs 200 while the three-day pass costs Rs 400. The recharge amounts for smart cards can be updated by tapping on the AFC gate within seven days or at Card Top-up Terminals (CTT) within 15 days, both from the time of recharge. However, if the commuters are unable to update the balance amount on their smart cards within 15 days, the amount will be refunded (through the same channel) within 30 days with a deduction of a 2.5-per-cent cancellation fee.

Smt. Sonia Gandhi
President, AICC
Sri Rahul Gandhi
Member of Parliament, AICC
Known as the Direct Deity, Walking God, the Guru made a unique contribution to the society through three different ways by giving Education, Food and Shelter to the poor children beyond the caste, creed and religions. We heartily recollect
115 Birth Anniversary of
Sri Sri Sri Dr. Shivakumara Swamiji
Our goal is to walk on the path which you have shown
Your blessings are our ultimate protection
Sri. K.C.Venugopal
General Secretary, AICC
Sri Randeep Singh Surjewala
General Secretary, AICC
Publicity: Sri Ramaliga Reddy, Working President, Karnataka Pradesh Congress Committee

Nabbed drug peddler turns out to be most wanted criminal

With several cases against him, he came to B'luru to hide but was caught selling drugs

Bellie Thomas
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TWEETS @Bellie_Mirror

A 35-year-old man with a major criminal background from Uppinangadi, Dakshina Kannada district, was arrested in Bengaluru along with his associate, a 22-year-old car driver, while both of them were trying to sell drugs near a railway track in Hebbal on Tuesday.

The arrested have been identified as Hassan Sadiq (35), a native of Mangaluru, and Salah Khan (22), a resident of Bengaluru. According to the police, Sadiq has around 17 cases registered against him in Uppinangady and Puttur areas where he has been accused in cases of attempt to murder, robberies, dacoity, extortion, giving death threats and armed confrontations. The team attached to the Hebbal police station who arrested Sadiq initially did not have a clue that he was a big catch, a wanted criminal in Dakshina Kannada district. According to the cops, he had come to Bengaluru to lay low for some time as the police have been hunting him in Uppinangady and Puttur areas.

Among the gadgets seized was a mini weighing machine

A senior police officer from Hebbal police station said, the office of Assistant Commissioner of Police (ACP) JC Nagar sub-division, Reena Suvarna received credible information from one of their informers that two men who had come on a bike were trying to sell some kind of contraband to the members of the general public close to the railway tracks and a main road near Pilekamma temple in Hebbal. The message was flashed to the jurisdictional Hebbal police who formed a team and rushed to the spot. They surrounded the duo and seized 23 gm of MDMA also called Meth or Ecstasy from the accused. The cops also seized their motorbike and bundled them to the station.

During further interrogation, the Hebbal police learned that Sadiq had a serious criminal background and had come to the city to go into hiding. He had contacted his friend in Madiwala who had supplied him with 23 gm of MDMA drug for which Sadiq had not paid him. Sadiq told the police that he owed his friend Rs 50,000 for the MDMA. Sadiq further told the police that he had purchased the Meth for him to consume, but later, he decided to sell it away. It was then Sadiq came in contact with habitual offender, a car thief, Salah Khan in Bengaluru and both of them decided to sell the drugs to make a quick buck. The two then used the latter's bike to go to a secluded place near the railway tracks and a main road in Hebbal to sell the contraband, which is when they were arrested.

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Locker hired by **Mr. Bhawarlal Sunil and Mr. B Rajesh** having address at **45 Car Street, Ulsoor, Bangalore**. with **M G ROAD Branch** of Kotak Mahindra Bank Ltd. situated at, **No. 22, Ground Floor, Kotak House, M G Road, Bangalore-560001**, remains unoperated for the past 3 years. All the 3 letters sent to **MR. Bhawarlal Sunil and Mr. B Rajesh** calling upon him to operate the locker has returned unserved and they are not contactable. It is hereby informed that despite this notice if the said locker is not operated by **MR. Bhawarlal Sunil and Mr. B Rajesh within** 3 months from the date of this notice, break open of the said locker will be done on **1st July 2022 at around - 02.00 PM**

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Student's death: Invigilator's 'negligent' attitude slammed

Students at exam centre in Mysuru. Below: Anushree, student who passed away

#MYSURU

The death of a student appearing for the Secondary School Leaving Certificate (SSLC) Class 10 examination due to a heart attack has triggered a debate in Karnataka over the 'inhuman' and 'negligent' approach of the invigilator and authorities of the education department, as shocking details emerge in the case.

The incident occurred at T Narasipur town in Mysuru district on Monday when Anushree was writing the exam at a centre in Vidyodaya College.

The parents of the deceased student, as well as the public, are slamming the 'negligent' and 'inhuman' attitude of the invigilator for taking back her answer sheet one hour after the exam started, and for asking her to go to another examination centre to write her paper afresh.

Many organisations are slamming the authorities for causing strain to the student, resulting in the heart attack.

Anushree, a student of Madapura High School, collapsed while rushing towards another examination centre on Monday.

It has come to light that she had gone to the wrong examination centre. The invigilator had given her an answer sheet without checking her hall ticket. When she was half way through the exam, the invigilator realised that she had come to the wrong centre and took away her answer sheet and question paper.

The student was asked to rush to another centre located 100 metres away.

Anushree's parents are now enraged over the handling of the case and the 'inhuman' approach of the invigilator.

Many are saying that the invigilator should have allowed Anushree to complete her exam.

Alagudu Shivakumar, district convener of the Dalit Sangharsha Samithi (DSS), has directly blamed the negligence of the invigilator for Anushree's death.

Anushree's uncle, Mahesh, said she wanted to become a district commissioner and had no health issues. He also demanded a probe into the incident.

Block Education Officer, Mariswamy, said as per rules, she could not have been allowed to continue with the same answer sheet. The authorities of the education department are awaiting the post-mortem report. **–IANS**

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Problems in your area?
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Sweeping neglect

KR Puram

Pourakarmikas are unable to sweep this spot due to vehicles parked here. BBMP must take action to ensure cleaning is done regularly.

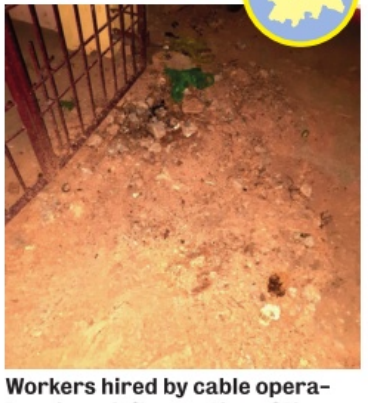
Blocked path

Jayanagar

Private goods vehicles are parked on the pavement on 26th Main, 4 th T Block. This is a regular issue for pedestrians.

Cable menace

Bangalore Urban



Workers hired by cable operators have left a portion of the road unrestored after completing their work. This is a problem across many localities in the city.

Wet Bengaluru days ahead, says weatherman

Severe heat waves prevail in northern districts of Karnataka, southern districts to get hotter at night

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Pre-monsoon showers or thundershowers are expected in the city in the next few days. On Wednesday, dark clouds hovered the city skies with a nowcast warning of gusty winds at different areas in the city.

Meteorologist Sadadananda Adiga said that the sudden change in wind direction will bring more rains to the city. Many areas in the State have already received good rainfall. In Kodagu district, Murnad received 6 cm and Napoklu 5 cm of rainfall while Balehonnur in Chikkamagaluru district received 1 cm of rainfall.

Meanwhile, severe heat waves prevailed in the northern districts of the State. Raichur recorded the maximum of 42.8 degree Celsius. Adiga said that the maximum temperature in many northern districts will be 2-3 degree Celsius above normal. The southern districts will also see an increase in temperature in the night as minimum temperature in many southern districts; Bengaluru may see a rise in 2-3 degree Celsius during night hours.

Bengaluru may see a rise in 2-3 degree Celsius during night hours

On Wednesday, Bengaluru recorded a temperature of 35.3 degree Celsius while the night temperature was 23.2 degree Celsius. Though the city's weather may be cloudy, the day's temperature can still be around 35 degree Celsius and night temperature around 23 degree Celsius, said the weathermen. "It is common to expect pre-monsoon showers during the Ugadi season. As Ugadi is this weekend, we may expect rainfall in many places. This may reduce the day's temperature and bring relief from scorching heat," said Nandita R, a homemaker.

Ugadi: It's homecoming time

This year's Ugadi is likely to be a special one as thousands will be heading out of the city to their hometowns to celebrate the festival.

When the covid pandemic hit the city, many were scared to return to their villages. Even the government had advised people not to travel so that the virus does not spread to rural areas. The situation was more or less the same during last year also when covid cases were peaking during this time. However, this year, with covid cases at an all time low, many are planning to head to their hometowns. In addition to this, with Ugadi being on a weekend, people have already planned their festival travel plans.

> **It is common to expect pre-monsoon showers during the Ugadi season. This may reduce the day's temperature and bring relief from the scorching heat**
>
> –Nandita R, homemaker

Keep your guard on, snakes on house hunt

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As the summer sets in, snakes are getting out of their retreats and in dozens.

Rescuers in the city say they are swamped with calls from across the city, majority of them are to rescue spectacled cobra. "Snakes are usually comfortable with a temperature of around 28 degree Celsius. As soon as the mercury rises above this mark, they start looking for cooler areas to regulate their body temperature," said Dr Navaz Shariff, chief veterinarian, People for Animals, Bengaluru.

Suayb Ahmad, a snake rescuer working with the BBMP, said soaring temperature coupled with the recent spell of rain has forced the snakes out of their shelters. "The number of rescue calls in the city has almost doubled. While the cases were already high due to the summer, the rain spell in between made the situation worse. When the heat kicked in, snakes came out looking for cooler burrows to hide; the rain filled up the burrows, forcing them to move again."

There has been a rise in the number of rescue calls this year. As per data furnished by PFA, while 73 snakes were rescued between January and March last year, 90 have been rescued this year till now.

Experts say early onset of hot days has also advanced their mating season, leading to more males trying to spot the females for pairing. Most rescue cases have been from bathrooms or in the clutter inside houses, said a city-based snake rescuer.

As per data furnished by PfA, 90 snakes have been rescued so far in Bengaluru

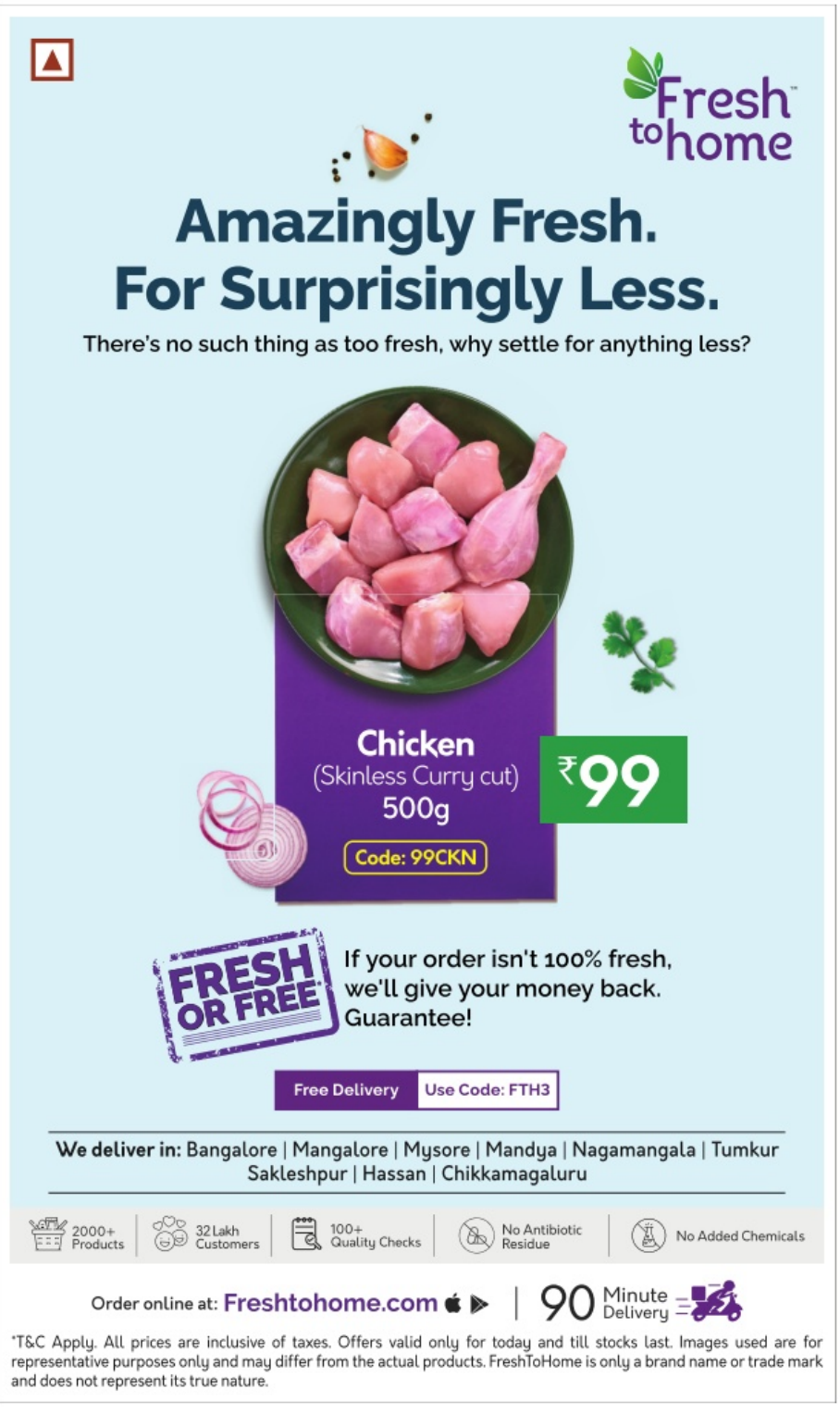
Experts say that incidents of snakes dying in road accidents are on the rise

Meanwhile, incidents of snakes dying in road accidents are on the rise. "We are also getting cases of snakes injured by human beings. Many of them get caught in earth-movers when vacant plots are being cleared of vegetation," said Dr Shariff.

Loss of habitat

Loss and destruction of habitat, according to the experts, is the prime reason the snakes are seen snuggled up in houses. "All the lake beds have been taken over by buildings. The leftover lands are also cleared of vegetation. This leaves them with no habitable place in the cities. Vacant areas with tall grasses and vegetation give snakes a good hideout. However, once we see a snake in the surrounding area, we start cleaning the whole space," Suyab said. "This leads to snakes entering our houses to search for cooler hideouts, which generally are water sumps, bathrooms and staircases."

Experts say that snakes play a very important role in ecological balance. "They control the rodent population. We will fall prey to many zoonotic diseases if they are not around," advises Dr Shariff.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It's all about the logistics

Smooth transport of goods due to top-class logistics helps K'taka get third spot in Export Preparedness Index

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Well established air cargo facilities, multimodal logistic hubs and inland container depots besides other logistics enabled Karnataka to ensure smooth transport of goods and attract major investments for the state. This helped Karnataka scored third in the Export Preparedness Index (EPI) 2021. With a score of 61.72, Karnataka stands third in the country in EPI only after Gujarat and Maharashtra. The EPI was announced by NITI Aayog in partnership with the Institute of Competitiveness.

The report is a comprehensive analysis of India's export achievements. The index is used by states and union territories (UTs) to benchmark their performance against their peers and analyse potential challenges to develop better policy mechanisms to foster export-led growth at the sub-national level. The four pillars and the rationale behind the State's selection are policy, business ecosystem, export ecosystem and export performance.

According to the report, Maharashtra and Karnataka are the top performers in coastal categories and are closely followed by Gujarat and Tamil Nadu. These states have performed well on ease of doing business and are benefitted by higher investment inflows. The report highlights that Karnataka is offering investor friendly services for obtaining infrastructure-related utilities like power availability and industrial land etc. The report also says that Karnataka (along with Delhi) has well established air cargo facilities, multimodal logistic hubs, and inland container depots.

The report noted that Karnataka's performance has improved significantly. Karnataka's score has increased from 55.17 to 61.72, and its rank is third in this category. This reflects the state's efforts to improve performance across almost all sub pillars in their respective regions.

The EPI report examines the export performance and the export readiness of the states and union territories. The idea behind the index is to create a benchmark to rank these states and union territories to help them individually promote a conducive export environment in the region. The index is an essential tool for policymakers and exporters to identify the drivers and obstacles, and examine the same to strategize a viable export map for the state.

Karnataka is offering investor friendly services for obtaining infrastructure-related utilities like power availability and industrial land etc.

Gujarat has topped the index with a strong display in various sub-pillars such as Export promotion policy, Business Environment and Infrastructure. "Notably, other coastal states such as Maharashtra and Karnataka occupy the index's second and third positions. All three states have performed consistently across pillars, thus consolidating solid scores. These states are among the top states in the export contribution of more than 50 per cent in India," the report highlighted.

Build to the future

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

generator, KPCL's vision was to go for a green building of highest standards to set an example to all, of its commitment to sustainability and mitigating the fallout of climate change," said KPCL chief engineer Chinna Somaiah.

As per the information provided by KPCL, the building has achieved energy cost savings of 47.1% over the conventional buildings of comparable built-up areas. While the total electric cost of a similar conventional building comes up to around Rs 20 lakh a month, KPCL is expected to shell out only half of this amount.

"The energy cost saving has been made possible with the help of a combination of design aspects. From the wall material specification to the use of natural daylight and from the installation of occupancy sensors in all spaces to roof insulation, we have tried to minimise the heat gain," said principal architect Meghana Dutta of Studio Decode.

The building also draws 12.3% of the total required energy from solar panels and incorporates efficient glazing that allows daylight but reduces heat gain. It also boasts a black and grey water treatment facility along with the use of material on-site that allows groundwater recharge too.

"We had to design a sustainable building that can set an example to

the other private and public infrastructure developments in Karnataka. It had to be simple, cost-effective, and enhance the experience of working for the occupants. The site is located in a dense CBD area with longer sides along the east-west axis, and thus posed many challenges in promoting a sustainable approach," said Dutta.

The design of the building evolved out of an effort to devise a highly efficient building envelope that not only performed climatically but also integrated landscape at multiple levels to enhance the experience of the users.

"I strongly recommend other government offices to go for green buildings as it is not only good for the environment, but also improves the health of the occupants," added Somaiah.

WATER FOR PARCHED FORESTS

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Kapil Mavinkurve, trustee of Share Habitat said, "Helping the voiceless is not a one-time effort but a daily job. Especially during summer, food and water become scarce for wildlife as well as stray animals. We keep sending water tankers to help the voiceless creatures. We will continue to do it till June, until the monsoon sets in. We have seen wild animals coming out of forests during summer in search of water. This will help them stay inside the forests and help them to stay hydrated and safe."

The volunteers are also on a mission to set up water bowls in the South zone of the city.

"During summers, we have noticed hundreds of cases of dehydrated birds falling to the ground. Dogs and cattle on the roads are exhausted too trying to find water, food and shelter. We are helping them out," Mavinkurve added.

Rashmi Mavinkurve of Share Habitat added that during summer as the forest fires are common, the team has decided to donate powerful handheld blowers.

"To ease forest watchers and guards' jobs in extinguishing forest fires this year, we have decided to donate a powerful handheld blower which works on petrol. The machine extinguishes the blaze in seconds avoiding further spread of fire. A single machine does the job of a 25-member fire brigade. With this machine, fire can be extinguished in minutes and stopped from escalating further. A forest can be saved as well as lots of man-hours including dependencies attached to manual efforts," Rashmi noted.

Sexual harassment in gurukul, manager arrested

#Mysuru

The manager of a Gurukul in Karnataka's Mysore district was arrested after 18 girl students levelled sexual harassment charges against him, police said on Wednesday.

The Gurukul manager has been identified as Girish (40), police said. The students from across the state are studying at the Gurukul located close to the Infosys premises in Hebbal in Mysuru.

The Gurukul has branches in many cities in the state. The Gurukul provides free education, accommodation and food to girl students, who are below 18 years and come from poor backgrounds, the police said. The incident came to light after a music teacher was appointed in the Gurukul. The music teacher observed the misbehaviour of the manager and reported it to the Child Welfare Committee with evidence.

Following the complaint, the Committee members paid a visit to the Gurukul and recorded the statements of the victim girl students. It was found in the preliminary investigations that the allegations against the accused manager were true prima facie. The girls have been shifted to the Observation home and the Bapuji Children's home. – IANS

Delhi HC allows DKS to travel to UAE

#New Delhi

The Delhi High Court on Wednesday permitted Karnataka Congress leader D.K Shivakumar a week's time to visit the United Arab Emirates for attending an event.

Shivakumar was granted bail in October 2019, in connection with a money laundering case registered by the Enforcement Directorate on a condition that he has to take prior permission from the court before travelling abroad.

A bench of Justice Asha Menon granted permission to the Congress leader to travel to Dubai and Abu Dabhi in UAE between March 31 and April 6. The court also directed him to intimate the investigating official upon his return to India.

Shivakumar's counsel Mayank Jain submitted the travel itinerary and relevant documents of the politician as per the court's earlier direction. – IANS

Balancing EV power

Study shows 52 per cent of Bengaluru's electricity load is from EVs

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Experts highlight the need to restrict power demand in the coming years

With the increasing penetration in the EV sector and the Bescom's estimations for a 200 per cent growth in the next two years, researchers suggest measures to balance power consumption.

Of the 99.57,498 vehicles registered in Bengaluru in March 2021, 14,279 were accounted for EVs. Estimated 9,591 two-wheelers, 4,204 four-wheelers, 53,000 taxis, and 254 three-wheelers registered as EV vehicles. According to experts in the field, roughly 42,73,637 EV vehicles will be registered in FY 2026-27 as per KEVESP's 2030 EV targets. Through the deployment, EVs will reduce 2.3 million tonnes of CO2 emissions per year in Bengaluru alone.

In a study titled 'Electric Vehicle Demand Projection for Bengaluru and Power Demand Management', CSTEP researchers Harikrishna KV and Rohan Ghai highlighted the need to restrict power demand to manage the increased load on the grid with the influx of EVs in the coming years. "We wanted to evaluate the power demand requirement in 2026- 2027 with the influx of EV vehicles. We have used power demand profiles from Bescom. Along with the expected electric vehicles from Bescom, we projected the power demand for FY 2026-2027. We noticed that peak power demand for the city (non-EV users) was during the daytime while it was peaking at night for EV users," said Harikrishna KV, a research scientist at CSTEP whose focus is on transmission, distribution planning, and EV integration.

According to the study, 52 per cent of the city load was found to be from EVs. With the current EV load, researchers expect easy management without increased ramping and switching from generators.

However, if the EV integration exceeds the expectation, the overall demand will rise from 5,000 MW to approximately 5,800 MW, estimating a 13 per cent increase. To meet the huge gap, transmission and distribution infrastructure will have to be strengthened across Bengaluru. Hence, it becomes essential to mediate the demand. Researchers suggest certain measures and practices already in place in other countries that might help maintain the power demand:

Time of the day tariff

By establishing varying charging costs, EV users can be encouraged to charge their vehicles during the time when the city load is at its minimum. This can also be scheduled monthly and consumers can be notified in advance.

A higher price will be levied during peak hours and EV users will be encouraged to charge during off-peak hours with lower prices. This will allow loads to be distributed across the day instead of peaking only in a few periods. It will further allow for more addition to EVs with the minimal strengthening of the grid.

Battery-swapping incentives

More battery-swapping stations should be set up throughout the city. EV owners will be able to pick up pre-charged batteries that were charged during off-peak hours. This will also significantly reduce EV owners' need to wait for hours to get their vehicles completely charged.

Green charging stations

EV charging stations can be fitted with solar panels wherein the charging stations would use the power from solar panels during the daytime and the excess power will be sent to the grid. This will ensure the usage of EV vehicles will remain completely sustainable with limited dependence on energy generated from non-renewable energy sources.

However, researchers point out that for these measures to be implemented, various infrastructural investments will be required. For example, to implement the Time of the Day tariff, EV users should be aware of the tariff charges in real-time. Special meters might be required to display real-time prices. Space could be a challenging factor for setting up green charging and battery swapping stations.

Court orders registration of 'special criminal case' against BSY

A Special Court in Bengaluru has ordered the registration of a 'special criminal case' against former Karnataka chief minister BS Yediyurappa regarding alleged corruption in a land denotification issue when he was the deputy CM in the BJP-JDS coalition government in 2006-07.

Sessions Judge B Jayantha Kumar of the special court, set up exclusively to deal with criminal cases related to elected MPs or MLAs in Karnataka, has issued the order on March 26, based on a private complaint by one Vasudeva Reddy.

According to the complainant, the state government under the Karnataka Industrial Area Development Act acquired 434 acres of land in Bellandur, Devarabeesanahalli, Kariyammana Agrahara and Amanibellandur Khane to establish an Information Technology park. The same was however denotified by Yeddiyurappa "in favour of private persons without any public benefit."

> **"The complainant has made a prima facie case against Yediyurappa, who has to be summoned to the court after due process**
>
> –Special Court order

The court in its order said the complainant has made a prima facie case against Yediyurappa, who has to be summoned to the court after due process. "I think that there is sufficient material to proceed against the accused by registering a Special Criminal Case and summoning the accused No 2 for his attendance and giving an opportunity to the complainant to establish his allegations against the accused number two.

Yediyurappa was the second accused in the original complaint filed by Vasudeva Reddy in 2013 with the then Industries Minister RV Deshpande being the accused number one. The case against Deshpande, however, came to be quashed by the High Court in 2015. Yediyurappa remains the sole accused in this case now. The Lokayukta police which investigated the case filed a 'B' Report in the case giving a clean chit to Yediyurappa citing that there was no evidence of illegal gratification.

In a criminal case, the B Report submitted in court means that the police have completed the investigation and there is no offence made out against the accused. The Special Court, though, had rejected the B Report in 2021.

In its latest order, the court has specified that the lack of evidence of illegal gratification to the accused does not prohibit initiating investigation under Section 13 (1) of the Prevention of Corruption Act. –PTI

Electoral reforms debated in Assembly

Need for stronger anti-defection law, making voting compulsory, functioning of the Election Commission, ending nexus between political parties and corporate bodies, were among the issues that came up for discussion during a special debate on electoral reforms in the Karnataka Legislative Assembly on Wednesday, before it was adjourned sine die.

Leader of Opposition Siddaramaiah expressed concerns over the deteriorating electoral system in the country since 1970s; while Chief Minister expressed hope citing innate strength among the people of the country to protect democratic system and values, despite diversity.

Participating in the debate, Bommai said, "India's democratic system has stood the test of time and we have been able to protect it. There is a smooth transfer of power in our country after every election, when compared to several developed countries, including the US."

Stating that there is no need for getting disheartened about the present electoral system, compared to the past, he said he has confidence in youngsters and changes in technology that is trying to bring in some kind of transparency. "Certain percentage of voters may get infused, but normally every voter wants his vote to win...a voter observes everything, whether he takes allurements or not, most of the voters do (vote) according to what is in his or her mind," he said, adding that parties need to understand this, as making people corrupt is the greatest sin.

Siddaramaiah during his intervention expressed concern about growing nexus between political parties and corporate bodies and said they have now reached a position of controlling governments, whichever party they may be from. –PTI

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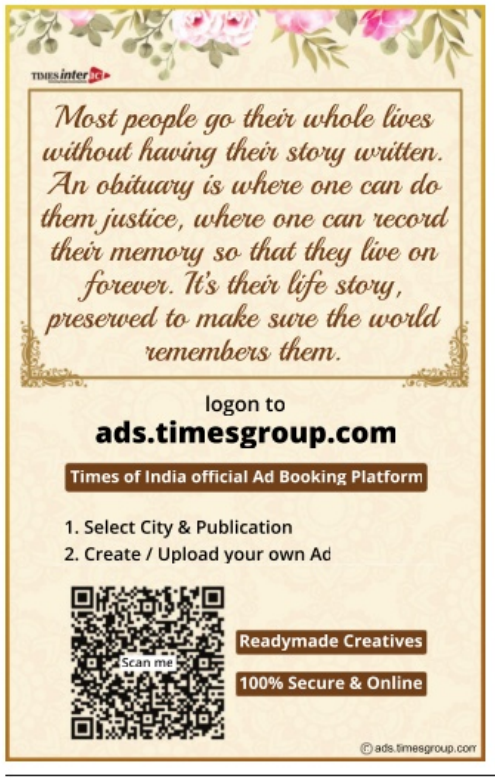
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I, CHANDRIKA BANGALORE SURYAPRAKASH (Old Name) R/o A25, Patterns Good Earth Malhar, off Doddabele road, Kambipura, B'lore-74. I Have changed my name to CHANDRIKA DONTHI SATYANARAYANA SETTY (New Name).Vide Affidavit dtd 30-03-22 Sworn before notary S.N. Madhu Bangalore.

I, MUMTAZ IMTIYAZ AHMED, W/o, ASGAR and Residing at No.22, 2nd Floor, Arokiyamma Layout, Opp Elahi Masjid, Venkatesh puram, Bangalore 560045 have changed my name to MUMTAZ vide affidavit dated 30.03.2022 sworn before notary D S Chandrakanth, Bangalore.

HEALTH TIP: Broccoli is rich in vitamins, which help boost bone and muscle strength, prevent osteoporosis, relieve pain and inflammation due to arthritis

Amla or Indian gooseberry enables better diabetes control, better digestion, healthier skin, hair and eyes

At home skin care

Let us tap into our forefathers' age-old wisdom and witness the beauty of some of their DIY skin care using natural ingredients

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In order to get healthy, beautiful skin, we lavish it with TLC and pamper it with the greatest skincare products. However, natural compounds can occasionally meet all of your skin's needs. Because these substances are chemical-free, they are suitable for all skin types – oily, dry, normal, or sensitive. Trust nature's healing and beautifying powers to cure and beautify your skin.

When you don't have time for intrusive surgeries and treatments, it's important to have a few natural face beauty tips and tricks under your sleeve as a woman. It is critical to keep the skin moisturised and moisturised in order to preserve its general health. Because harsh cleansers may harm the skin's outer layer, employing natural skincare components can soothe sensitive skin while preventing breakouts and skin damage.

Natural remedies stand out among all the artificial items polluting the market as a result of the rising emphasis on healthy ageing and self-image. Homemade face packs have always been popular since they are generally safe for sensitive ageing skin. Let us tap into our forefathers' age-old wisdom and witness the beauty of some of their DIY skin care using natural ingredients. These ideas have been tried and tested and work for all skin types; continue reading to find out what we have in store for you!

Cucumber and lemon to treat blemishes

We've all got blackheads and blemishes that make our skin seem drab and lifeless. Use a cucumber and lemon juice combination to naturally remove blemishes and blackheads and to get a brighter and more even skin tone. Apply equal parts cucumber and lemon juice on your face before taking a bath. Allow it to sit for 10 minutes before rinsing it off. This natural face beauty tip will brighten your skin tone and lighten blemishes if used on a regular basis. The best aspect is that it is appropriate for all skin types!

Papaya helps get rid of dead skin

Papaya, which contains a natural enzyme called papain, naturally exfoliates the skin, leaving it smooth and velvety. Because unripe papaya has more papain, you may use it to gently exfoliate and remove dead skin cells and other impurities. Those with sensitive skin can also use papaya because it is less likely to cause an allergic response. 1/4 cup papaya flesh, blended with 1 tablespoon fresh pineapple to produce a smooth combination Apply evenly and allow to sit for 5 to 15 minutes before rinsing.

Tomatoes to reduce excess oil from skin

Excessive oil on the face does not just affect individuals with oily skin; in a nation like India, where the weather is mostly humid, excessive oil is rather prevalent. Tomatoes, which are high in lycopene, have anti-oxidants as well as cooling and astringent effects. It balances the skin's natural oils and removes any excess oil you may be experiencing. This natural face beauty tip is also used to decrease the appearance of wrinkles and fine lines. Scoop up one tomato's pulp and apply it evenly on your face. Allow it to dry for 15 minutes before removing it with warm water to reveal naturally radiant skin.

Green tea works wonders as a toner

If you use a CTM regimen (Cleansing-Toning-Moisturizing) on a regular basis, you understand the value of a toner. When administered topically, both white and green tea have brightening, anti-inflammatory, and moisturising qualities. With so many advantages in a single substance, how can it not be a natural face beauty tip? Here's what you should do. Allow the tea to cool or to room temperature after steeping it in water for about 5 minutes. Transfer to a spray bottle and spritz as needed or place a little amount onto a cotton pad and pat on your face after thoroughly cleaning it.

Chilled tea bags help reduce dark circles

Drinking green tea every day and tossing the old tea bags in the trash? You might want to remember to store from the next time you enjoy a cup of green tea. A chilled black or green tea bag does wonders for your skin apart from eliminating the toxins from your body. This natural face beauty technique may rapidly reduce puffiness around the eyes, making them appear brighter and more alert. Place the tea bags on your eyelids and relax for 5 to 15 minutes while they perform their magic.

Gram flour helps reduce tan

Gram flour, known to most of us as besan, is used as a natural, moderate exfoliant to remove dead skin cells, tan, and sunburns. Here's a natural face beauty tip you should know if you desire clean, smooth, and naturally glowing skin. In a mixing basin, combine equal parts gramme flour and curd to make a paste. Apply this paste evenly to your face and neck and let it on for 30 minutes before washing with water. It will gently remove dead skin cells and deep-set grime, lightening and leveling your skin tone.

Honey can help achieve glowing skin

We are all aware that honey has several health advantages and is an excellent cosmetic tip for clean skin. Applying a small amount of honey to your face every day is an excellent approach to getting healthy, bright skin. Honey's absorbing properties draw out pollutants from skin pores and help completely cleanse your skin. Honey's antibacterial effects heal and prevent acne. Honey's antimicrobial qualities soothe skin irritation and protect skin from bacterial infections. Honey has remarkable moisturising effects and is also a terrific relief for dry skin.

Coffee makes for an excellent exfoliant

We've all heard about the advantages of exfoliating. Exfoliating on a regular basis improves the appearance of your skin, making it look younger and healthier. For those who enjoy coffee, a homemade coffee scrub is all the weekly nourishment your skin requires. Coffee's anti-inflammatory qualities minimize redness, irritation, and acne.

Coffee is high in antioxidants, making it an excellent home remedy for bright skin. Coffee scrub may also be used to cure sunburn, freckles, fine lines, and wrinkles. Mix freshly ground coffee beans, coconut oil, and brown sugar to your desired consistency in a mixing dish. Massage gently in circular strokes over your face, then rinse with warm water. After using an exfoliant, always moisturise.

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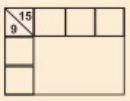

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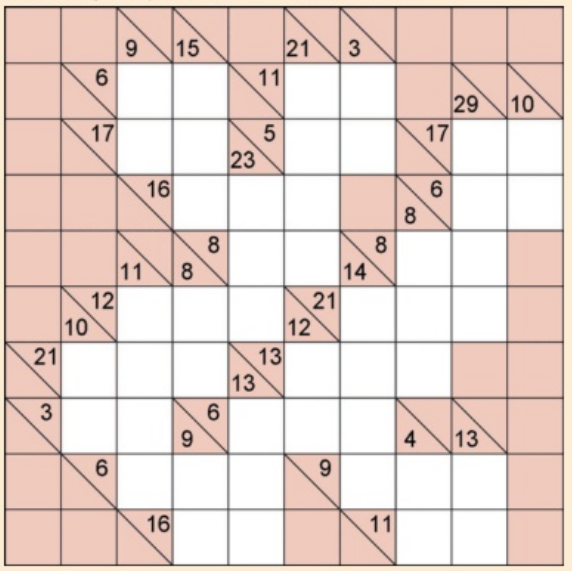
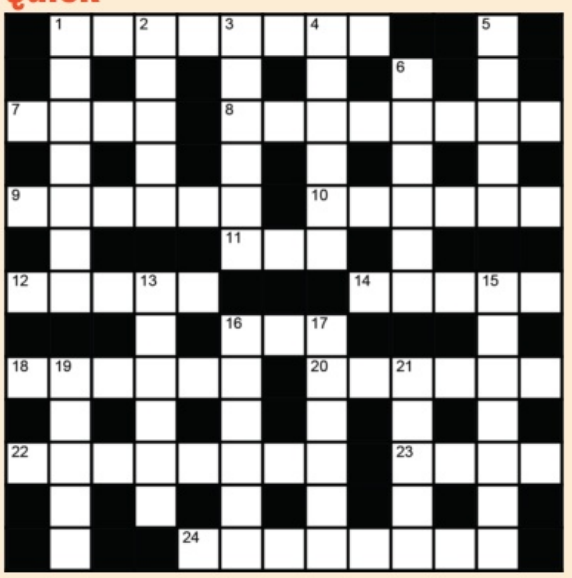


Quick



ACROSS

1 Succession in order (8)
7 Given facts (4)
8 Famous Italian violinist and composer (8)
9 Taken illegally (6)
10 Squabbled (6)
11 French for 'Duke' (3)
12 Baby beds (5)
14 Condition (5)
16 At once, briefly (3)
18 One who accepts without objection (6)
20 Referee (6)
22 Viewer or spectator (8)
23 Multiplex at Garuda Mall (4)
24 Habitually inactive, lazy (8)

DOWN

1 Appetizer (7)
2 Cower (5)
3 Increase; spread (6)
4 French brandy (6)
5 Spree, drinking bout (5)
6 Galahad or Gawain, for two (6)
13 Organizations (6)
15 Evict or expel (4,3)
16 Established (6)
17 Size of paper? (6)
19 Biblical tower (5)
21 Value or esteem hightly? (5)

Quoteuncode

This puzzle is a substitution cipher in which one letter stands for another. If you think that Q equals C, it will equal C throughout the puzzle. Single letters, short words and words using an apostrophe give you clues to locating vowels. Solution is by trial and error.

Today's CLUE: V EQUALS T

LCMCJRVT SMZXRJCN HZM VLC UZJRHRPFVRZY ZH RVN ZDY UFPLRYCMT.

Linemaro

When I look into your eyes, it is like a gateway into the world of which I want to be a part

Mindchow

Always do your best. What you plant now, you will harvest later.

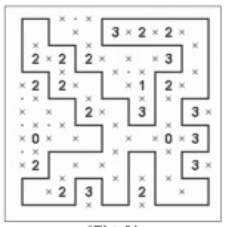
Joke of the day

Few women admit their age. Few men act theirs.

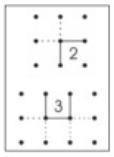
Loop

Rules

» Connect adjacent dots with vertical or horizontal lines, creating a single loop (Fig A). » Crossovers or branches are not allowed (As shown by dotted lines in Fig B). » Numbers in the puzzle indicate the number of lines that should surround it, while empty cells may be surrounded by any number of lines. » You can't draw lines around zeros. » Each puzzle has just one unique solution.



(Fig A)



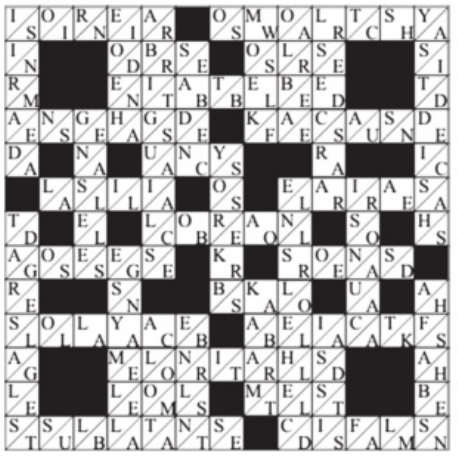
(Fig B) Not Allowed

How to begin:

Example (Fig A) – Begin with the zero next to 3. Since no lines can be drawn around zero, mark crosses around it, as shown. Now there is a cross in one space around 3. So we know the three lines of 3 can only be drawn in the remaining three spaces. Next, these lines can only be extended in one direction each. Continue, using the same logic.

Hints: Keep eliminating possibilities by marking crosses in spaces between dots where a line isn't possible, i.e., if you have already completed required lines or where a line extension may create a branch or cause a dead-end (Fig B)

Strikeout



This crossword has no clues and the answer is there waiting for you. All you have to do is find it in each square. You have a choice of two letters, one of which you must strike out. If you choose correctly, you will be left with a grid that contains real words.

Fast five

How long do you think it will take you to unscramble the ten words shown below and fit them correctly into the grid in the order given one letter has already been entered to get you started? on your marks, get set...

1	2	3	4	5
6				
7				M
8				
9				

ACROSS

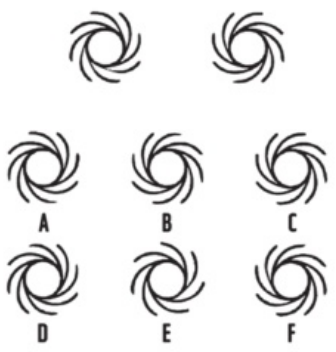
1 A kart; 6 Medea;
7 Booms; 8 Ale be;
9 BSE Ox

DOWN

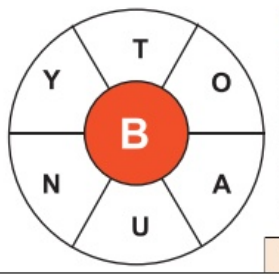
1 Bake B; 2 Boa do;
3 Rexes; 4 Maleo;
5 Mates

Mensapuzzle

If the two spirals at the top are correct, which, if any, of those below are wrong?



Bull's eye



How many words of four or more letters can you make from the letters shown? Every word must contain the central letter. There should be one seven-letter word. British English Dictionary is used as a reference.

09 Average; **10** Good; **12** Outstanding

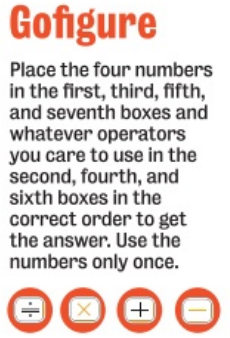
SudokuChallenge

	1	9		6		5	4	
8	2		9	7	4		3	6
		1	5		3	8		
		2	7		1	6		
7	5		1	3	8		9	2
	8	3		4		7	1	

To solve a Sudoku puzzle, every digit from one to nine must appear in each of the nine vertical columns, in each of the nine horizontal rows and in each of the nine boxes.

Gofigure

Place the four numbers in the first, third, fifth, and seventh boxes and whatever operators you care to use in the second, fourth, and sixth boxes in the correct order to get the answer. Use the numbers only once.

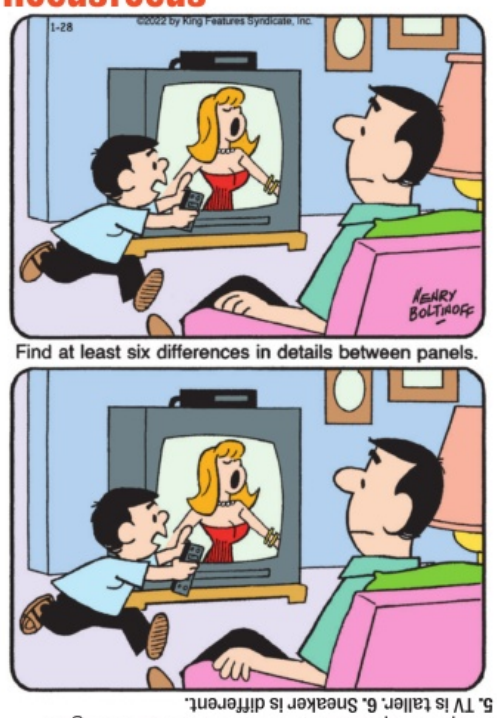


Easy = 10
3 4 5 8

Medium = 16
2 5 7 7

Hard = 10
2 6 7 5

Hocusfocus



Find at least six differences in details between panels.

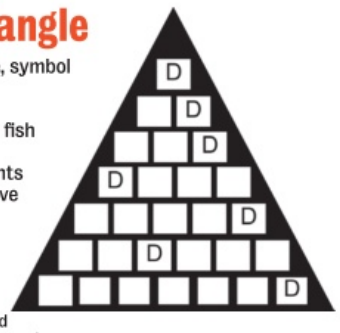
Differences: 1. Hand is different. 2. Leg is moved. 3. Top of lamp shade is different. 4. Remote is longer. 5. TV is taller. 6. Sneaker is different.

Riddler

What are the next four letters in this series?
GPPAP KTGAMTC WTBCOTP ????

Alpha triangle

1 Hydrogen isotope, symbol
2 Anno Domini
3 Bounder
4 Small freshwater fish
5 Played a part
6 West Point students
7 Made a chess move

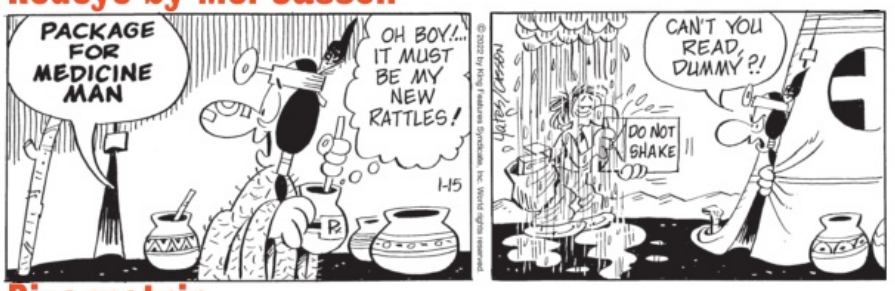


Beginning at the top move towards the bottom seven-letter word by adding a letter at each step and rearranging. A correct and different word must be made at each step answering to the clue given.

DIFFICULT TO SOLVE? FIND THESE SOLUTIONS ON THE NEXT PAGE

COMICS

Redeye by Mel Casson

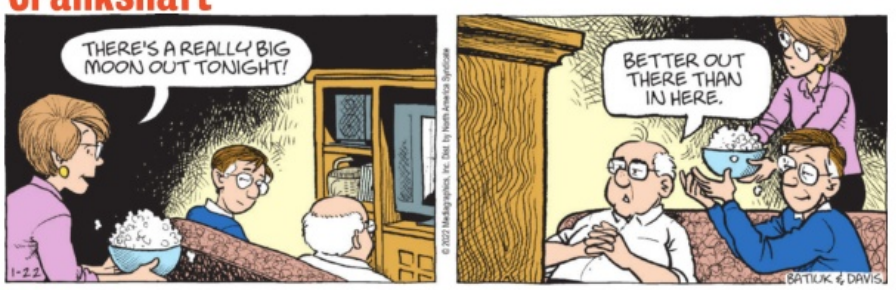


Bizarrotrip

Diamond Lil

Hart of the city

Crankshaft



Mutts

WHAT YOUR STARS SAY TODAY

Aries Mar 21 – Apr 20
Today, you may feel negative. Due to last night's insomnia, you may feel dull. This may reflect into your way of work; it is advised to postpone making investments into your work as you may be a victim of conspiracy. You are advised to keep an eye on opponents and rivals. Love birds are advised to keep patience to avoid unnecessary arguments.

Taurus Apr 21 – May 20
Today, you may be blessed by the moon. You may get some big orders with the help of overseas contacts. You may face moments of anxiety, but somehow you may be able to have control over it. Students may study their subjects with dedication. Investors are advised to make long-term investments for fruitful gains.

Gemini May 21 – Jun 21
Today, you may be busy at work. You may face some difficulties in completion of the task. It may make you upset, but somehow with blessings from elders and gurus, you may come out from the messy situation. Due to workload, you may feel mentally tired; you may not be able to give time to your family. But, your siblings may support you and help maintain your domestic harmony.

Cancer Jun 22 – July 23
Today, things are under control. The crunch from the last few days is likely to be over now. You may feel calm and cool. Your focus towards your goals may be good. You may enjoy your work. Your disputes in partnerships may settle now. Litigation in property-related matters may resolve. You may also experience some romantic moments with your loved ones.

Leo Jul 24 – Aug 23
Today is not a good day for you. You may be a victim of negative thoughts. You may be impatient. Your arrogance may push you back from making difficult decisions. Your life seems to have stopped somewhere. You may be in need of blessings from your elders, which may help you to come back from the messy situations. You should avoid making investments in dead assets.

Virgo Aug 24 – Sep 23
Today, you are blessed by the moon. You may hear some good news in terms of work and business. You may enjoy your domestic life in full swings of joy. You are advised to avoid making arguments on worthless topics. Over excitement may test your patience. You may make important decisions over investments in assets. Students are advised to be focused in their studies.

Libra Sep 24 – Oct 22
Today is good for your work; you may perform well at work. Your boss may give you some more responsibilities, in terms of promotions. Your rivals and opponents are now under control. You may lend money for buying assets. You may plan to make some investments for your kids' future.

Scorpio Oct 23 – Nov 22
Today, you may feel very dull. It may make you lazy and careless; you are likely to lose focus at work. Impatience may pull you down. Kids and spouse's health may make you upset. You should avoid making investments in assets. Love birds should avoid making arguments in family matters.

Sagittarius Nov 23 – Dec 22
Today, you may find negative vibrations around you, which may make you unhappy. You are advised to avoid making investments on worthless assets. Your friends are not likely to be supportive today. You should not expect more from them in terms of help, otherwise it may make you more upset. You are advised to follow your intuitions before making important decisions today.

Capricorn Dec 23 – Jan 20
Today, you may be able to implement business plans successfully with the support of your subordinates. You may be involved in some social or family get-togethers, which may boost your network. You may go for short-business related trips, which may give you benefits in the near future.

Aquarius Jan 21 – Feb 19
Today is a good day; your financial health is likely to be good. You may get benefits from your past investments. You may have control over your spending on worthless stuff, which may boost your savings. Love birds are advised to be polite in the conversation with the partner, otherwise there may be some conflicts between them.

Pisces Feb 20 – Mar 20
Today, you may be busy with issues related to siblings and relatives. You may plan to start a new venture with the help of your siblings and network. You are likely to get an order, which may increase your family business. Your network may help you to complete your task successfully. There may be some smart gains after a little effort.

KIDZONE

Vijay, 11 Years, Excellent English School

Rishab R, 6 Years, Bharath Matha School

Kidzone, Bangalore Mirror, No.4, KSCCF Compound, Pampa Maha Kavi Road, Chamrajpet, Bengaluru 560 018; Please send hard copies of your artwork in A4 size only.

SOLUTIONS

SOLVE IN 1M
=4x(10x20)x8
=4x(200)x8
=4x200x8 = 200x4x8
=800x8 = 6400

QUOTE UNCODE
Heredity provides for the modification of its own machinery.

RIDDLER
GPRA – Georgie Porgie ran away. Here's the whole nursery rhyme: Georgie Porgie, pudding, and pie, Kissed the girls, and made them cry. When the boys came out to play, Georgie Porgie ran away.

FAST FIVE

K	A	R	A	T
E	D	E	M	A
B	O	S	O	M
A	B	E	L	E
B	O	X	E	S

STRIKE OUT

S	U	B	L	A	T	E	■	D	I	A	L	S	■	■
L	■	E	M	S	■	T	E	T	■	E	■	■	■	■
A	■	M	O	R	T	A	L	S	■	H	■	■	■	■
S	O	L	A	C	E	■	B	L	A	C	K	S	■	■
R	■	N	■	S	A	O	■	A	■	A	■	■	■	■
A	S	S	E	S	■	K	R	O	A	D	■	■	■	■
T	■	L	■	L	O	R	A	N	S	■	H	■	■	■
A	L	L	I	■	O	■	E	R	I	E	S	■	■	■
D	■	A	■	A	N	Y	■	A	■	I	■	■	■	■
E	N	G	A	G	E	■	F	E	C	U	N	D	■	■
R	■	N	I	B	B	L	E	D	■	D	■	■	■	■
I	O	N	I	A	■	S	W	A	R	T	H	Y	■	■
N	■	O	B	E	■	O	L	E	■	I	■	■	■	■
A	■	T	■	U	■	X	■	O	■	K	■	I	■	■
■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■

QUICK

■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■
■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■
■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■
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■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■

MENSA PUZZLE
E. There are only 7 off-shoots from the centre, instead of 8, as in all the others.

BULL'S EYE
about, abut, baton, boat, bony, botany, bount, bunt, buoy, BUOYANT, tuba

SUDOKU

3	1	9	8	6	2	5	4	7
4	6	7	3	1	5	2	8	9
8	2	5	9	7	4	1	3	6
6	7	1	5	9	3	8	2	4
5	3	8	4	2	6	9	7	1
9	4	2	7	8	1	6	5	3
7	5	6	1	3	8	4	9	2
1	9	4	2	5	7	3	6	8
2	8	3	6	9	4	7	1	5

ALPHA TRIANGLE
D, AD, Cad, Dace, Acted, Cadets, Casted.

GO FIGURE
Easy
4 + 3 – 5 + 8 = 10
Medium
7 x 2 – 5 + 7 = 16
Hard
6 – 5 + 7 + 2 = 10

LOOP

KAKURO

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Rare flicks
Restored versions of 17 films, including Korean film "The Housemaid", "Revenge" from erstwhile Soviet Union, Turkey's "Dry Summer" are heading to streaming service MUBI in India

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'Take it easy, allow the body to heal'

Shruti Haasan speaks about her covid journey

Actor Shruti Haasan tested positive for covid-19 last month. As she has now successfully recuperated from the contagious virus, she is currently focusing on her health and immunity. She believes that going easy on oneself and allowing the body to heal is the right way to go about it.

Talking about her battle with covid-19, Shruti recently shared with a news portal that although she was careful as one can possibly be, she yet contracted the virus after two years of the pandemic. Asserting that the virus which is still out there is something that should not be taken lightly, she told Hindustan Times, "I think people think vaccination means we can't get Covid. But that's not true. It only reduces the symptoms."

Shruti tested positive during one of her regular tests protocols ahead of a shoot. While her recovery was slow, she called it good as she experienced symptoms like fever and body ache. She spent her recovery time binge-watching and talking to friends and family on the phone.

On the work front, Shruti was last seen in 'Best Seller'. Currently, she is busy juggling multiple projects including the much-awaited 'Salaar' opposite Prabhas.

The film will feature the actress showing off her martial arts skills. "Action is something I enjoy, but it depends on how convincing it is in the story. I'm someone who firmly believes women can kick b**t better than anyone else, but I may be speaking from a place of privilege. In India, there are many women who may not be so privileged and can't defend themselves. So as filmmakers, we have to be careful about how to approach this," she told Hyderabad Times recently.

Urvashi is on a song & dance

Actor Urvashi Rautela has announced collaboration with popular singer Jason Derulo, known for belting out hits such as 'Talk dirty to me', 'Wiggle wiggle', 'Swalla' and 'Trumpets' among many others, for their upcoming music single. Urvashi had shared a glimpse of it on her social media and has made it official on her collaboration for the song.

Jason Derulo, on working with Urvashi, said: "It was a pleasure working with Urvashi Rautela in 'Jaanu'. She's a shining example of raw Indian beauty, and more importantly, Urvashi Rautela is not just the first, but also the second most beautiful woman in the world. "She is an excellent and outstanding actor and performer. She is the ultimate global icon. The only Bollywood film person I know of after Shah Rukh Khan is Urvashi Rautela. She is very famous. I cannot comment on the industry, but I like the emotions and dance that Indian movies involve."

Urvashi will also be seen in the Jio studios web series 'Inspector Avinash' opposite Randeep Hooda in a lead role. The actress is going to play the lead role in a bilingual thriller 'Black Rose' along with the Hindi remake of 'Thiruttu Payale 2'. The actress will also be making her Tamil debut with the Rs 200 crore big-budget film 'The Legend' opposite Saravana. —IANS

Splash!
Nine times actor Malaika Arora took our breath away with her pool clicks

Watch this story come alive by pointing your phone camera at the QR code

Sharon Stone boards DC film 'Blue Beetle'

Hollywood star Sharon Stone is returning to the DC universe in a new role for the upcoming superhero film "Blue Beetle".

Starring "Cobra Kai" actor Xolo Mariduena in the title role, the movie hails from filmmaker Angel Manuel Soto and writer Gareth Dunnet-Alcocer.

According to The Hollywood Reporter, Stone will play the antagonist Victoria Kord, a character especially created for the upcoming film. In the DC universe, the 64-year-old actor previously played a role in the poorly received 2004 Halle Berry film, "Catwoman".

Also joining the cast of "Blue Beetle" is Raoul Max Trujillo of "Mayans M.C." fame. He will play Carapax the Indestructible Man in the film. In the comics, the character is Conrad Carapax, an archeologist whose mind melds with the body of a robot. —PTI

Why Nimrat loves to take the stage

Movies comprise many actors coming from theatre. Touted to be one of the most challenging art forms, these actors rule both on-stage and on-camera worlds with their flair for acting. And one such name who embarked on her acting journey with theatre is Nimrat Kaur.

With acclaimed dramas like The Lunchbox and Airlift to her credit, Nimrat has been a part of stage plays like Baghdad Wedding, All About Women, and Red Sparrow - to name a few. As the world celebrated World Theatre Day on March 27, we caught the actress getting candid about the art form.

Nimrat Kaur said, "It is an experience to work in a play. As an actor, it allows you to have a firm command over the craft because, unlike films, there is no cut on the stage. There is always so much room for improvisation and for exploration as an artist. I do wish to be a part of more plays in the coming future."